

Volunteer & Advocacy

Volunteers provide valuable assistance to CSS, collectively putting in more than **19,515** hours, an increase of 2% from 2007. That translates into an 8% increase in savings to CSS of over **\$380,700**. A new *Meals on Wheels* route was created in West Cobb, making this the **21st** route. Additionally, **5** new groups volunteered to deliver meals. The total number of new volunteers recruited for *Meals on Wheels* in 2008 was **104**.

Collectively these volunteers have driven **84,500** miles, **up 6%**. The spike in gas prices resulted in an overwhelming response from the community. Almost **\$2,000** worth of pre-paid gas & gift cards were donated to ensure volunteers were able to deliver meals to homebound senior adults.

Senior Citizen Council, with a membership of **3,800**, hosted the successful 2008 *Cobb Senior Idol* and completed revisions/updates to the Senior Resource Directory. They also distributed over **5,000** Vials of Life and Medical Information Files. These items provide important personal medical information in the event of a situation in which the senior is unable to communicate with emergency personnel.

Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) came under the umbrella of CSS. This program's concentrations include computer literacy, emergency & disaster preparedness, Medicare/Medicaid assistance, consumer fraud and more. The Senior to Senior Advocacy Team is continuing Medicare assistance, along with a focus on consumer fraud and affordable housing for seniors.

Resource Development

Each year our Resource Campaign raises funds to augment County and State funds and grants to provide meals for seniors in need who cannot afford to pay. In 2008, through donations from the public, the Resource Campaign raised **\$18,156.43. (17% increase)**

With generous contributions from the community, CSS is able to augment funding from Federal, State, and County grants. In 2008, the total amount of In Kind donations from individuals, businesses, churches and other organizations was **\$74,788.54**. These donations enabled CSS to provide more programs for seniors in Cobb County.

Our biennial Health Fair was held in May for "Older Americans Month." More than **600** seniors, caregivers, retirees, and adult children attended this free event. **52** vendors were on hand to answer questions and provide information on everything from legal issues to recreation and finances.

Senior Day at the North Georgia State Fair provided a fun-filled day for seniors at no charge. Bingo is the highlight of the day with thousands of dollars worth of prizes. More than **1200** seniors from the metro area attended, making this the largest crowd in the event's 20 years.

Cobb Senior Services
32 N. Fairground Street
Marietta, GA 30060
(770) 528-5355
www.cobb seniors.org

Financial Office

As a result of cost-efficient management, CSS recognized a savings of **\$10,000** in fees after purchasing electrical water heaters.

The new "zone" system for CSS transportation was successful in saving an average of **90** gallons of gasoline each month from April -November 2008.

Best Practices

Many businesses and organizations provide valuable support and services to Cobb's senior population. To recognize these efforts in 2008, CSS presented **3 Best Practices Awards** to: **East Marietta Drugs** (small business), **AARP Cobb Tax-Aide & Driver Safety** (non-profit), and **Pfizer, Inc.** (large business).

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2008 Annual Report Cobb Senior Services

It's not about AGE;
It's about **ATTITUDE!**



Cobb County... Expect the Best!

Partnerships

Senior Services partnered with many organizations in 2008 to provide innovative programs and to prepare for the increasing senior population. Some of the successful partnerships included:

Cobb DOT on the implementation of a new transportation voucher program for disabled seniors, "Cobb Freedom." The program rolled out in Fall 2008.

Alzheimer's Association & Kennesaw State University for 2008 Northwest Metro Memory Walk. A proclamation was made by the Cobb County Board of Commissioners, which acknowledged October as *Alzheimer's Awareness Month*. Bill Gaines, anchor of **CBS46 News**, was the event's Master of Ceremonies.

Atlanta Regional Commission for RSVP-Cobb & our advocacy efforts.

Social Services

Case Management Provided in circumstances where senior citizens 60+, their families and/or caregivers are experiencing diminished functioning capacities, or other characteristics which require a formal assessment and determination of need, appropriate services and ongoing supervision and support. **2,082 clients, 3,956 hours of service. (9% increase)**

Good N.E.W.S Clients whose nutrition assessment score is 6+ receive Level I screening and one-on-one nutrition counseling from a qualified health professional. **1st full year, 66 clients**

Home Delivered Meals (Meals On Wheels) Provision to eligible clients 60+ or other eligible participant at their place of residence, one meal that provides at least 33.3% of the Required Daily Allowance, basic nutrition, health and community information. **424 clients, 56,728 meals. (9% increase)**

Social Services (cont.)

Home Delivered Meals Voucher program Clients on the waiting list for HDM service are provided vouchers to purchase meals from a list of private vendors. **65 clients, 4,799 meals.**

Homemaker Voucher Program Clients on the waiting list for Homemaker are provided vouchers to purchase homemaker services from a list of private vendors. **New**

Personal Care & Homemaking Tasks that provide personal assistance for eligible seniors 60+, with the inability to perform one or more of the following Activities of Daily Living: *Personal Care*-eating, dressing, bathing, toileting, transferring in/out of bed/chair or walking, *Homemaker*-preparing light meals and completing light housework. **111 clients, 2,967 hours of service.**

Information & Referral A service for the seniors of Cobb County and general public that provides current information, opportunities and services available within their communities. Links individuals to opportunities and services available and ensures to the maximum extent practicable that individuals receive the services needed. **2,175 clients, 2,893 hours of service.**

Cobb Freedom Clients who are determined eligible for CCT Paratransit service but live outside of the service area are provided vouchers to purchase the alternative mode of transportation which best meets their needs. **New**

Generations: Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Provides supportive services to eligible Cobb County grandparents or other relatives, who are raising their grandchildren and/or other minor relatives. Includes community group meetings, supervision and activities for the children, and other related provisions for the children. **1st full year.**

Social Services (cont.)

Senior Santa Provides social support to home-bound seniors who would otherwise spend the holidays alone. Includes party, dinner, personal gifts, safety items, transportation, shelf stable meals, and entertainment. Those unable to attend party receive gifts and meals by home visitations. **150 clients served.**

Share The Care (Material Aide & Respite Voucher program) Caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's disease and/or related disorders are provided vouchers to be spent on a variety of needed services such as respite, counseling, senior day care, prescriptions, transportation, installation of grab bars & alarms, purchase of incontinence supplies, home repair and yard work. All purchased services must in some way provide identifiable relief to the caregiver. **Respite: 77 clients, 7,597 hours of service (56% increase). Material Aide: 93 clients, 438 repairs or other support.**

Transportation Provides to eligible seniors 60+, a means of going from one place to another through: *Demand/Response* pre-scheduled trips to medical offices, etc, *Fixed Route* pre-scheduled trips to Neighborhood Centers and *Group Charter Trips*. **702 clients; 66,700 one-way trips**

Transportation Voucher Program Clients on the waiting list for transportation service are provided vouchers to purchase the alternative mode of transportation which best meets their needs. Transportation can be for medical visits, doctor's appointments, grocery shopping and other necessary appointments and visitations. **67 clients, 1,268 one-way trips.**

Senior Day Center The provision of respite, socialization, health care, medical monitoring, personal care, counseling, and recreational services for the frail senior aged 55+. Includes daily hot meal. **83 clients 6,103 days of service.**

Social Services (cont.)

4 Neighborhood Centers Provision to eligible clients aged 60+ and other eligible participants, a daily meal that provides at least 33.3% of the Required Daily Allowance, programs to promote health & wellness such as physical fitness and nutrition health information, group counseling sessions on problem resolution, and the promotion of socialization with such activities as sports, music, arts and crafts, games, trips, dances and special events. **378 clients, 27,167 meals; 287 clients 23, 615 recreation. (23% increase)**

Multipurpose Centers

In 2008, participation at the five Multipurpose Centers exceeded **290,000**—a new record. With over **14,000** seniors registering for the Centers' seminars, health screenings, quarterly classes, and special events, the number of paid and free programs continues to grow. In the fall of 2008, the convenient option of on-line registration became available.

The Centers coordinated *Health University-Cobb*, a free program which concluded in June 2008 after sixteen months of sessions and screenings designed to lower cardio-vascular health risks for the participating seniors. The documented success of *Health University* was recognized nationally when it won an Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo).



Cobb County...Expect the Best!